**Centrally sponsored schemes for employment generation in J&K**

606. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any centrally sponsored schemes including foreign funding are presently available in Jammu and Kashmir for employment generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of those schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Priority to vocational education**

607. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ORG in 1996 and NCERT in 1998 evaluated that the States were according low priority to vocational education;

(b) if so, details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to divert the students in the vocational stream to meet the immense demand for skilled man power generated by the policies of liberalization and globalization;

(d) whether there is any action plan to make the vocational education more attractive and meaningful;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the progress in the implementation and the result achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (f) Operation Research Group in 1996 and the Working Group constituted under the Chairmanship of Director, NCERT in 1998